

Claim for Damages

Alternative Format Available
See instructions on back.



King County

Department of Executive Services
Risk Management Division
Ph: 206-263-2250
TTY: 800-833-6388

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CLERK
KING COUNTY COUNCIL

County Claim Number / Clerks Date Stamp

Name: BELINDA Ferguson

First, Middle, Last (or business name)

Address: See attached

(Home or business)

City

State

Zip

Business
Phone:

Home
Phone:

Message / Cell
Phone:

Date of Birth:

Email Address:

Your Address at time of
loss / incident:

Address

City

State

Zip

Date of Incident:

Time of Incident:

Amount Claimed: \$

Address / Location of
loss/incident:

Description of Details (Describe how the loss / incident occurred):

see attached

(Attach additional pages and supporting documents as needed.)

KingCounty's Involvement (If possible, please identify employee and/or department involved):

see attached

Witnesses (please provide addresses and phone numbers):

(1)

(2)

(3)

Complete this section for Metro Transit claims.

Route Number:

Coach / Vehicle Number:

Coach / Vehicle License Number:

I was a: ☐ Bus Passenger ☐ Pedestrian ☐ Owner ☐ Driver of Another Vehicle ☐ Passenger in Another Vehicle

Other (Describe):

Property Damage (please describe the value and extent of the damage to your home, automobile or personal property. Attach estimates, bills or whatever documentation of damages you may have):

Make: Model: Year: License Number: Insurance Name: Policy Number:

Were you injured? ☐ No ☐ Yes If yes, then complete the following:
Describe your injury (Identify your doctors(s)/healthcare provider(s)):

Are you still receiving medical treatment? ☐ No ☐ Yes

Employer:

Wage Loss? ☐ No ☐ Yes If Yes, rate of pay:

Type of work:

"I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington that the foregoing is true and correct."

8-21-12; Tacoma, WA
(Date and Place (City, State))

King County Electronic Claim for Damages Form (Rev 07/2012)

Signature

Belinda Ferguson
Attorney, WSBA #03085

**Claim for Damages
Department of Executive Services
Risk Management Division**

Name: Belinda Ferguson
c/o Connelly Law Offices
2301 North 30th Street
Tacoma, Washington 98403
253-593-8360
jkays@connelly-law.com

Date of Birth: 2-17-61

Your address at the time of loss/incident: See above

Date of incidents: 1-1-2003 to present

Time of incidents: See above.

Amount claimed: \$1.5 million to \$3 million

Location of incidents: King County Sheriff's Department, Sexual Assault Unit
Regional Justice Center, Kent, Washington

Description of Details:

Ms. Ferguson is a long-time employee of the King County Sheriff's Office (KCSO). She is currently a detective in the KCSO's Sexual Assault Unit, which is the detective unit that investigates crimes of sexual violence committed against children and adults. For approximately the past eight and one-half years she has worked in the Sexual Assault Unit under the management team of Sergeants Provenzo and Mahlum. Ms. Ferguson is one of approximately four female detectives in the Sexual Assault Unit.

For eight and one-half years, while under the management team of Provenzo and Mahlum, Ms. Ferguson and other female detectives have been subjected, unfairly and unlawfully, to sexual and gender based harassment. Such acts included, but are not limited to KCSO manager Provenzo committing repeated acts of: verbal abuse against Ms. Ferguson; yelling, screaming and spitting on Ms. Ferguson; discussing the size of Ms. Ferguson's breasts; directing other detectives to walk by to look at Ms. Ferguson's breasts; singling Ms. Ferguson out for criticism in front of her peers; threats of retaliation against Ms. Ferguson if she spoke in opposition to Provenzo (i.e., to demote Ms. Ferguson and send her "back to patrol" or to re-assign her to a different precinct); and other acts of sexual and gender based harassment. Sergeants Provenzo and Mahlum have also acted in a similarly unfair and unlawful manner to two of Ms. Ferguson's co-workers: Ms. Priebe-Olson and Ms. Luitgaarden.

In contrast, none of the four male detectives who work in the Sexual Assault Unit, supervised by Provenzo and Mahlum, are subjected to the aforementioned abuse and harassment.

Ms. Ferguson has suffered significant damages as a result of the chronic and ongoing sexual and gender based harassment by her male superiors. Ms. Ferguson has suffered tremendous emotional distress, stress, impacted her job performance, pain and humiliation as a result of the years of sexual and gender based harassment at the hands of Provenzo and Mahlum. The years spent working in the toxic, degrading and humiliating environment created by these two male managers has taken a toll on her emotionally, physically and mentally.

King County's Involvement: (if possible, please identify employee and/or department involved)

The acts of sexual and gender based harassment, and other abuse as detailed above, occurred in the course of Ms. Ferguson's employment as a detective with the King County Sheriff's Department, Sexual Assault Unit. The department involved is the King County Sheriff's Department. The employees involved in the discriminatory acts include the following individuals: Sergeants Tony Provenzo and Paul Mahlum. Our investigation is ongoing and may reveal additional individual parties involved.

Witnesses: Our investigation is ongoing; to date the following witnesses have been revealed:

Belinda Ferguson
c/o Connelly Law Offices
2301 North 30th Street
Tacoma, Washington 98403
253-593-8360

Janette Luitgaarden
c/o Connelly Law Offices
2301 North 30th Street
Tacoma, Washington 98403
253-593-8360

Marylisa Priebe-Olson
c/o Connelly Law Offices
2301 North 30th Street
Tacoma, Washington 98403
253-593-8360

Detective Michael Gordon
KCSO, Sexual Assault Unit
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Detective Chris Knudsen
KCSO, Sexual Assault Unit
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Detective Casey Johnson
KCSO, Sexual Assault Unit
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Detective Christine Elias
KCSO, Sexual Assault Unit
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Detective Patricia Malley
KCSO, Sexual Assault Unit
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Jessica Cline
KCSO, Sexual Assault Unit
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Wendy Billingsley
KCSO, Sexual Assault Unit
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Property Damage: N/A

Were you injured?: Yes

Describe your injuries: See answer to Description of Details above. Our investigation is ongoing and we reserve the right to supplement the damages portion of this claim, including additional witnesses.